

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A01G27/00 G01N27/22

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 A01G G01N G05D

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X A	US 6 401 742 B1 (CRAMER DEAN L ET AL) 11 June 2002 (2002-06-11) column 4, line 54 - column 6, line 16; figures 2-4	1-3, 7, 8, 17 6
X A	FR 2 687 787 A (CAPORD SARL) 27 August 1993 (1993-08-27) page 2, line 11 - page 3, line 6; figures	1-3, 7, 8, 17 6
X	US 5 546 974 A (BIRELEY ET AL) 20 August 1996 (1996-08-20) column 7, line 64 - column 8, line 47; figures 4-6 -/-	1, 2, 17

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
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- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

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Z document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

29 April 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

09/05/2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	DE 101 06 266 A1 (JUNKER, ANDREAS; JUNKER, CHRISTIAN) 19 September 2002 (2002-09-19) cited in the application abstract	1

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 6401742	B1	11-06-2002	NONE	
FR 2687787	A	27-08-1993	FR 2687787 A1	27-08-1993
US 5546974	A	20-08-1996	NONE	
DE 10106266	A1	19-09-2002	NONE	